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The Pan-ch'iao Reservoir project was completed in three stages in less than a year. Over 1,000 administrative, engineering, fiduciary, and medical cadres, and 145,500 peasant laborers were employed. They put in a total of 6 million man-days of work using 180 machines and 4,700 tons of nonearth materials. Daily requirements of food, and fuel amounted to over 125 tons.

The technicians and engineers were drawn from many of the large cities of the country and the peasant laborers from a radius of 300 li in all directions. Construction on the Pan-ch'iao and Pai-sha reservoirs and dike repairing and building on a dozen or more nearby streams has employed the labor of half a million persons during the winter and spring. Irrigation of 600,000 mou will be possible from the two big reservoirs mentioned above /one li equals 1/3 mile/.

SEVERE FLOOD THREATS IN HUPEH, HUNAN, KIANGSI, KWANGTUNG -- Hankow, Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 14 May 52

Flood-control agencies in Hupeh, Hunan, Kiangsi and Kwangtung are working feverishly to protect their areas against flood threat. Steady rains have been falling for some time in Kiangsi and Kwangtung. Water is steadily rising in the lower Han Chiang and Po-yang Hu area in Kiangsi. On 5 May, the water level on the Hsiu Shui reached 20 meters, one meter above alarm stage. In Yung-hsiu Hsien on the lower reaches of the Hsiu Shui dikes were breached in more than ten places, inundating 3,000 mou. In Lo-p'ing and Po-yang hsien water levels were above alarm stage.

Flood crests, approaching or passing the danger point, have been reached in a number of places on the Pei Chiang, Tung Chiang, and Hsi Chiang in Kwangtung. The water level on the Han-yang Chiang in late April reached the highest point seen in several decades. In four ch'u in Yang-chiang Hsien 7,000 mou of rice and 8,000 mou of early crops were inundated. On 1 May, the area on the west side of the Han-yang Chiang from Ma-ahan to Yang-chiang city was flooded, bringing disaster to 10,000 people.

Rivers and lakes in Hunan and Hupeh are rising. The Hsiang Chiang at Han-ch'uan and Han-yang has nearly reached record level.

Conservancy officials in all four provinces are taking all possible measures to meet the threat of floods. In the Tung-t'ing Hu and Hsiang Chiang areas of Hunan, 24,900,000 fang of earth has been handled in dike building and repair work. By shortening dikes, some 50,000 mou of land has been added to the available arable area /one fang equals 100 cubic feet/.

In Hunan a lackadaisical spirit has prevailed among many conservancy cadres and much of the dike-repair and bank-protection work done has been of inferior quality. As a result it has already failed under the test of high water.

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